

January 25, 1961

Mrs. Carmen Perez
Chapter I Coordinator
Franklin School
48 Park Avenue
Newark, New Jersey 07104

Dear Carmen:

Please read the attached letter sent to me regarding the Newark Museum's need for a part-time employee of Puerto Rican descent.

Maybe you or another member of PMN know a college student or teacher who might be interested in this position.

Thanks,

Faust St.
Faust St.

FStm

January 8, 1983

Dear Valberto,

As a friend and fellow educator, I would like to ask for your help and the cooperation of the members of P.R.E.A. in the search for a qualified person to fill a special position in the Education Department at the Newark Museum. The situation is as follows:

In 1979, as an employee of the Newark Museum's Education Department, I began to introduce a Spanish language component into the existing curricula for groups visiting the Museum. Then, a donation to the Education Department by an organization headed by Maria Blake and Hilda Hidalgo enabled me to purchase the materials necessary to develop and conduct presentations dealing specifically with Puerto Rican art and culture. The material included replicas of artifacts, costumes, dolls, prints, reference material, and forty slides that represent the best and most well-known Puerto Rican artists, past and present. I found it necessary to publicize the fact that such a service was available, and over the next two years, nearly 2,000 individuals received hands-on lectures and an overview of Puerto Rican art and culture. The talks, presented in English or Spanish or bilingually, in various schools and agencies as well as in the Museum, were well-received by audiences of all ages and all ethnic groups.

After two years of part-time work as a museum docent, I left the Museum, and the presentation was taken over by Carmen Solis, who was then hired as community liaison for the Museum. Carmen, who also was consistently and actively working towards more exposure for Puerto Rican and Hispanic art, left the Museum in 1981.

Since then, we have both attempted to refer a person able to assume responsibility for the Puerto Rican art docentry and accept work as a bilingual museum docent. It has been hard to impossible to locate someone who has the enthusiasm and the expertise to transmit knowledge and appreciation for Puerto Rican art with the vitality and professionalism it deserves.

The bilingual docent hired could conduct gallery visits and workshops in the sciences or humanities or both. Weekly working hours average to about ten hours and hourly rate is in the vicinity of \$9.00. College and graduate students might welcome the chance work part-time, in addition to the opportunity for personal and professional growth that is present with this position. Any inquiries regarding this position should be made to my colleague, Susan Newberry, Director of Education.

The Newark Museum
49 Washington St
Newark, New Jersey
733- 8870

Susan has made a good-faith request to me on behalf of the presentation and the educational community at large. Please help to keep the Puerto Rican Art program alive at the Newark Museum!

Sincerely

Maggie Joyce
Maggie Joyce

P.S. In 1979, the theme of the annual Spring Festival of the Junior Museum was "USA FIERRE LATINA". Its' activities included crafts, folklore, and dance of Hispanic origin and an emphasis on Puerto Rican culture. The Festival featured a salsa band (students of Reynaldo's from O.E.S.A.). The two-day festival was overwhelmingly successful and boasted the largest attendance of any festival of the Junior Museum to date!

Kaggie